

Finding Rosendale: Newsletter #3

Ulster County Transportation Council



Michael P. Hein,
County Executive
Chairman

Finding Rosendale Report Issued by Town

The Ulster County Transportation Council and Town of Rosendale have released the Finding Rosendale - Technical Memorandum #2 and #3 completed by Barton & Loguidice D.P.C. The document outlines the circulation and wayfinding plan for the Town. The document establishes the background information and preliminary analysis for the plan. The plan also suggests ways to improve circulation, connectivity and wayfinding between recreation areas, public parking lots and commercial properties in and around 'Downtown Rosendale' in a manner that respects private properties. Recreational features and attractions such as the Wallkill Valley

Rail Trail, Rosendale Trestle, Joppenbergh Mountain, and the Williams Lake Project are expected to draw increasing numbers of new visitors to the area across several modes of travel. To capitalize on this influx of visitors the document outlines plans to: improve linkages between parking, trails, and businesses; provide better wayfinding; and provide safe pedestrian/bicyclist accommodations in appropriate locations throughout the Town.

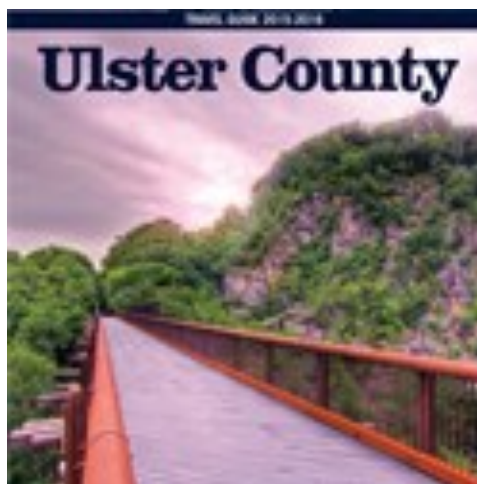


Image from the new Ulster County Travel Guide. The new Finding Rosendale document highlights ways to improve circulation between the Trestle & downtown Rosendale.

A link to a PDF version of the Finding Rosendale—Technical Memorandum #2 and #3 can be found on the Town website, listed under the Finding Rosendale Project. Further information is available on the UCTC website.

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Upcoming Milestones

- Public Information Meeting
—July 2015
- Implementation Grant
Application-Due July 31, 2015
- Final Draft & Wayfinding Concept
—August 2015

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Town to Seek Signage Implementation Funds

The Town of Rosendale is seeking funding for the first phase of wayfinding signage installation as outlined by the Finding Rosendale plan. The funding is being applied for through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application. Funding is available under three CFA programs including Market NY, Parks—Recreational Trails Program, and the NYS Council of the Arts. The application is due on July 31, 2015.

Transportation Projects Recommended in Study

Several transportation related projects are recommended in the Finding Rosendale plan.

At the Binnewater Road Parking area, Willow Kiln park and Creek Locks Road Park minor improvements in order to better accommodate visitors are recommended. These improvements will include parking formalization, establishing better pedestrian access to trails and downtown, and the addition of welcome kiosks in the Binnewater and Willow Kiln areas.

At the intersection of Route 32 with Main Street (Route 213)

and Creek Locks Road (CR 25), affectionately known as the Triangle, near the route 32 bridge, several pedestrian and landscape improvements are recommended. On James Street and Fairview Avenue there is a need for increased pedestrian and bicycle access and pedestrian crossing areas. The recommendations for these areas also include bike paths, crosswalks, signage informing users of shared-use areas, and crossing signals.

One suggested transportation improvement is an opportunity to realign Binnewater Road in the future to create a safer



“The Triangle” – Routes 32 and 213

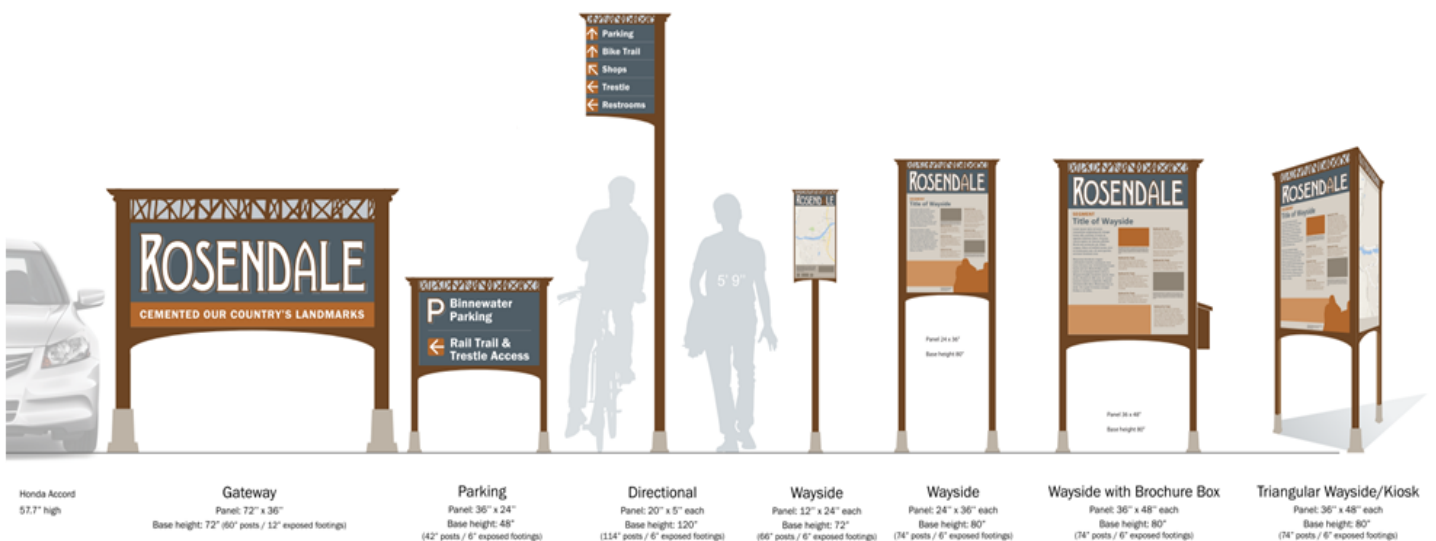
intersection with NYS Route 213 and improve bicycle and pedestrian access to Binnewater Kilns Park/Parking Area. This opportunity would require further study concerning its feasibility.

Final Wayfinding System Concept

The wayfinding signage for the Finding Rosendale project was developed with input from the project committee and public and incorporates the culture and heritage of the Town. The signage design includes:

- Bluestone color: Blues, Grays, or Green-gray
- Integration of cement in celebration of the local heritage: Dove gray post footings
- Shape of a Kiln: signage features curved arches also prevalent in local architecture
- The Rosendale Trestle: The form of the trestle is incorporated at the top of each sign and represented again in the rust colored accents.

*Please note that the tagline under the “Gateway” Rosendale sign is a placeholder.



Park Improvements Could Provide Great New Amenities

The finding Rosendale plan recommends the improvement or establishment of several park sites. The Binnewater Road Parking Area provides the best access to the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail. The site includes a decommissioned reservoir and a line of lime kilns that present an opportunity for heritage interpretation. The site thus provides a setting for a small park and picnic area similar to the Willow Kiln Area. The park area would include a welcome kiosk with interpretive signage, an information board with a Downtown Rosendale business directory, and brochure holders; the establishment of a system of trails on the Town-owned lands around the reservoir; and a picnic area adjacent to kilns.

At the existing Willow Kiln Park, recommended improvements include the formalization of the D&H Canal Tow Path Trail through the parking area, establishing a welcome kiosk with a business directory, an

interpretive trail, and a plan to “re-water” a former D&H Canal segment.

Creek Locks Park is a proposed recreational development between Creek Locks Road and the Rondout Creek. The site is primarily intended to be redeveloped for active recreation as ball fields. The site has potential as a “trailhead” for visitors arriving from north and east and offers shoreline trails with access to the Rondout.

Several recommendations are included for the Rosendale Recreation Center. Among them are suggestions to better utilize parking space, leverage new and upgraded recreational amenities and establish trail user comfort facilities such as water fountains, picnic areas, and showers. Thus, the Town will act as a port of call and welcome center for Trail users.



‘Arches’ at Willow Kiln Park

Among other park improvement and development projects suggested in the plan is enhancements to the planned Rondout Creek promenade along James Street recommended in the Town’s NY Rising plan. This promenade has the potential to become an attractive link in the local pedestrian and bicycle system.

Establishment of D&H Canalway Trail

The Delaware & Hudson Canal Corridor runs through downtown Rosendale on mostly public land, providing a great opportunity to develop an off-road trail corridor paralleling Main Street. At the NY-213—NY-32 intersection, a D&H Canal Trail gateway would be established opposite Creek Locks Road at the existing traffic signal. A series of interpretive signs is recommended along the trail route calling attention to several unique features visible along the

corridor. The D&H Canalway Trail will make a unique new addition to Rosendale’s many outdoor recreational attractions. Critical to success of this trail will be a series of new cross connections to Main Street utilizing vacant or underutilized lands.

Photo from the D&H Heritage Corridor Alliance Website



Ulster County Transportation Council

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Ulster County Transportation Council is providing federal funding as part of its Unified Planning Work Program to develop feasible planning and design concepts that improve circulation, accessibility, parking, and safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists in and around the NYS Route 213 or “Main Street District” of the Town of Rosendale.

The plan, nicknamed “Finding Rosendale”, will be consistent with complete streets concepts as well as community goals and expectations.

For more information, contact Brian Slack at bsla@co.ulster.ny.us or Ted Kolankowski at tkolankowski@bartonandloguidice.com.



Your Input is Still Needed!



Besides Wayfinding Signage, Which Projects Should be a Priority?

- A. Make parking and other park improvements at Willow Kiln Park
- B. Make parking and other park improvements at Binnewater Kiln Park
- C. Make improvements at the Rosendale Rec Center
- D. Establish Creek Locks Park

Which transportation-related projects should be a priority?

Your help is needed too!

Please call Town Hall if you are interested in volunteering.

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